

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

December 1, 1992 Mr. Hoskie Kee, President Bacca Chapter P.O. Box 82 Prewitt, New Mexico 87045

RE: EPA Response Actions on DOE Section 13, Haystack Mountain Site

Dear Mr. Kee:

I appreciated your visit on November 10, 1992 to the Haystack Mountain reclamation sites. Overall, I hope the visit impressed upon you the outstanding work and quality of work performed by the Laguna Construction Company at the sites.

As discussed, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has effectively reduced all areas of elevated gamma radiation to levels consistent with regional background conditions. The post-reclamation survey data conducted on the recently completed DOE parcel, Section 13, reveal that the average gamma reading on the site is 13 uR/hr. This value falls well within the regional natural background range of 8 uR/hr to 25 uR/hr. Prior to reclamation, the site averaged well above 225 uR/hr. Since, the levels are now "background" conditions, population frequenting the site do not receive any excess dosage of radiation. In conclusion, the site poses no significant threat to public health or the environment.

Presently, I am completing my On-Scene-Coordinator's Report concerning this reclamation action. I hope to have this report completed by the end of December and I will forward you a copy.

I enjoyed my stay at Haystack and if you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 415-744-2298 or at home at 510-284-3640.

Please say hello for me to Brown-Vandever and his family. It was a pleasure to work with them during these mine reclamations activities and I hope the Navajo Nation succeeds in erecting him a new residence on his allottment.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Hornstein

Federal On-Scene-Coordinator

cc: Stanley Edison, Navajo EPA